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IN VACATION.

Within His Rights.—"What the dickens is the matter with you?" furiously demanded the turnkey of Pat O'Brien, "kicking up a row at this time of night?"

"Sure an' I only want to go home", said Pat.

"Don't be a fool, man", said the turnkey, coming to see if Pat was quite well.

"Fool, bedad", shouted Pat from the other side of the bars, "I'm in my rights".

"Now look here", broke in the turnkey, meaningly, "you've got seven days hard; seven days you've got to do, so you'd better do them quietly".

"Your quite right", smiled Pat, "Shure, the ould boy gave seven days, but, begorra, he said nothing about nights, and faith you can surely trust me to come back in the morning".—St. Louis Star.

Lawyer's Advantage Over Poet.—A young man wanted some sentimental verses to send to a young woman on the occasion of her birthday. Not being much of a versifier himself, he went to a poetic friend and asked him to oblige.

"Why, certainly", generously responded the poet. "What do you want me to say to her?"

"Oh, anything in a poetical way", answered the youth. Something sweet and rather tender; but remember that I don't want to commit myself in any way".

"Look here", said the friend, with a merry smile, "you don't want a poet to draw up your verses—you want a lawyer"

Poker Playing Not Loafing.—"Some of you men who play poker day and night ought to be taken up for loafing".

"Playin' poker in Crimson Gulch", answered Three-finger Sam thoughtfully, "may be nonessential. But if you perreck your interests it ain't loafin'".—Washington Star.

BOOK REVIEWS.

All book reviews are by the Editor-in-Chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

The Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787 which Framed the Constitution of the United States of America.—Reported by James Madison, a Delegate from the State of Virginia. International Edition. Gaillard Hunt and James Brown Scott, Editors.

I send you enclos'd the propos'd new Federal Constitution for these States. I was engag'd '4 Months of the last Summer in the Convention that form'd it. It is now sent by Congress to the

several States for their Confirmation. If it succeeds, I do not see why you might not in Europe carry the Project of good Henry the 4th into Execution by forming a Federal Union and One Grand Republick of all its different States & Kingdoms; by means of a like Convention; for we had many Interests to reconcile (Benjamin Franklin to Mr. Grand, October 22, 1787. *Documentary History of the Constitution*. Vol. IV, pp. 341-342).

New York. Oxford University Press. American Branch: 35 West 32nd Street. London, Toronto, Melbourne, and Bombay. 1920.

No more valuable contribution to the history of the United States has been given to the country than this most admirable volume. *Madison's Debates*, as it is generally called, has been time and again published in various forms. We believe that at one time the Virginia State Government published a small volume containing these Debates, without notes or comments, but the present volume, which has been prepared with the greatest care from the original manuscript, is probably the best edition of these valuable Debates which can be found. The fact that the volume is edited by Gaillard Hunt and James Brown Scott would be sufficient evidence that the work is well done, even without an examination, but a careful examination of the book convinces one that the work could not be better done. These notes were made by James Madison—afterwards President Madison—during the proceedings of the Federal Convention, which met in Philadelphia May 25th, and adjourned September 17th, 1787. It is great pity that those people who so violently attack the League of Nations could not have read this volume before they became quite so violent, because this constitution was practically a league of the thirteen "Sovereign free and independent" States of America; in other words, thirteen separate, distinct nations uniting in a league of nations to make a constitution adequate to the exigencies of government and the preservation of the Union.

We commend the volume unhesitatingly to those interested in the history of America and more particularly in the history of the formation of our Government.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Division of Economics and History.—John Bates Clark, Director. Preliminary Economic Studies of the War, Edited by David Kinley, Professor of Political Economy, University of Illinois; Member of Committee of Research of the Endowment. No. 19. Prices and Price Control in Great Britain and the United States During the World War—By Simon Litman, Professor of Economics, University of Illinois. New York. Oxford University Press; American Branch: 35 West 32nd Street. London, Toronto, Melbourne and Bombay.

Anything relating to the economic conditions of the World War is of course of great value, and Professor Litman's study of prices during the war is a welcome addition to the literature on the subject. To those who study economic conditions and war this book will prove of unusual value, and to the generations that follow us the book may afford a guide to prevent many of the errors which we have committed—errors, however, which have been common to every war and will be until the end of time in great international struggles.